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Attorney Docket No. 102404-200

U.S. Serial No. 10/646,177

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REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 19, 2008.

Claims 1-15 are presented for examination. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Claims 12-15 have been added. Claims 1 and 12 are independent. Favorable review is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to explicitly recite user interfaces providing information for monitoring a status of the transaction and deadlines pertaining to the transaction; providing access to a database having information from a third party regarding the object of value; and providing descriptions of a plurality of documents pertaining to the transaction. Support for these added claim features is found in the specification at least at paragraphs 38 and 46-48, with reference to Figures 8, 15A, 15B, 16A and 16B. In the embodiment described in the specification, the system provides a tracking functionality for monitoring transaction deadlines ("countdown to closing"); provides access to a database of pertinent information including information from a government agency ("vessel track"); and provides a data entry point for entering and distributing data to fields of documents ("generate documents"). No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over *Pragelas, et al.* (US2002/0095308) in view of *Barts, et al.* (US2002/0082893). The applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited art, for the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a system that tracks and monitors the activities related to a sales transaction for an object of value. As noted in Applicant's specification in paragraph [0011], a "sales transaction" relates to a process flow for the sale and not to the physical transfer of goods that are the object of the sale. The system includes at least one client device, a centralized data store, and a controller. The centralized data storage system includes data related to the sales transaction and allows a plurality of users to conduct activities and complete documents required to complete the sales transaction. The controller selectively provides access to information stored in the data store; this is done through (at least) first, second and third user interfaces with specific features, which in turn offer functionality as described in detail in the specification.

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Pragelas et al. is understood to disclose a system for tracking shipments of goods, using various vehicles for carrying the goods, a communication network, and numerous data processors, preferably portable (see paragraph 36). Pragelas et al. is concerned with monitoring the movement of goods, as opposed to monitoring the status of a sales transaction. In particular, Pragelas et al. does not suggest monitoring deadlines pertaining to a sales transaction. It follows that Pragelas et al. does not disclose or suggest a user interface providing information for monitoring a status of a sales transaction and deadlines pertaining to the sales transaction, as required by the claim. In addition, Pragelas et al. offers no teaching or suggestion regarding a user interface providing access to a database including information from a third party regarding an object of value. Furthermore, Pragelas et al. teaches creating a bill of lading (paragraph 11), which clearly is concerned with movement of goods rather than their sale. Pragelas et al. does not teach or suggest a user interface providing descriptions of documents for completing a sales transaction, as required by claim 1. Accordingly, Pragelas et al. does not render obvious the above-described features of independent claim 1.

Barts et al. is understood to disclose a delivery system for shipping goods, specifically vehicles, from their manufacturing plant to their destination. Barts et al. is similar to Pragelas et al. in being concerned with the movement of goods, as opposed to a sales transaction. Furthermore, Barts et al. does not offer any teaching or suggestion regarding user interfaces, deadlines pertaining to a sales transaction, or access to a database including information from a third party, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Barts et al. does not remedy the defects of Pragelas et al. as a reference against claim 1, so that claim 1 is not rendered obvious by either reference or by a combination thereof.

New independent claim 12 recites at least one client device, at least one centralized data store, and a controller in terms similar to claim 1. Claim 12 also recites a user interface providing access to a database having information from a third party; this information includes registration information from a government agency regarding the object. As noted above, neither of the cited references is understood to disclose or suggest a user interface providing access to a database including third party information, let alone a database having registration information from a government agency regarding the object. Claim 12 is therefore believed to

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be also patentable over the cited art.

The other claims in the application are dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed to be patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is deemed to recite a separate aspect of the invention, however, the consideration of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

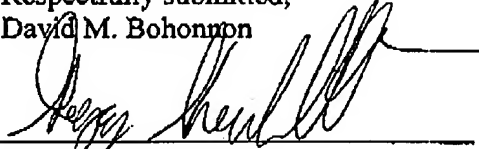
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully requested.

This Amendment is being submitted within two months of the date of the final Office Action. Accordingly, the period for reply will expire at three months from the date of the Office Action or on the date an Advisory Action is mailed, whichever is later. MPEP § 706.07(f).

If the Examiner has any questions or believes that a discussion with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Please apply any credits or charge any deficiencies to our Deposit Account No. 23-1665.

Respectfully submitted,
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